

GRIM BUSINESS OF WAR ALLIES' SINGLE CONCERN

Entente Powers Proceed to Carry on Persistent Hammering at Teutons.

PEACE FEELER IGNORED

Verdun Success Followed Up—Britons Fight on Meuse as Russians Make Gains.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

Paris, Dec. 16.—France has answered the Kaiser's peace proposals with her 42 centimeter guns. The Russian Duma has given the answer of the Bear. A member of the British war council has asserted that England wants no peace on the terms offered by Germany.

It is believed here tonight that the action of the Duma, combined with the successful attack by French troops, at Verdun, is an accurate forecast of the answer of the entire entente.

While the French troops are continuing to press their advance on the Verdun front, the British troops on the Meuse are locked in a desperate struggle with the Kaiser's soldiers, and similarly, on the front in Mesopotamia, British and French have started a new offensive.

The Russian armies in the Carpathians are reported to have redoubled their efforts to strike a crushing blow at Von Falkenhayn and Mackensen, and several minor successes have been recorded by the war office in Petrograd.

English Resistance Crystallized.

London advises state that the British nation is preparing to settle down to a period of war life approximating the conditions that have existed for so long in Germany. After the new year, the people will be made acquainted with war bread and sugar allowances, and traveling will be restricted. From steps already taken it is certain that the drastic changes mean that Great Britain is preparing to back the sentiments of Earl Grey and continue the war until Germany's power has been crushed.

A statement given out by the foreign office at Petrograd tonight supplements the speech of the foreign minister in the Duma, unqualifiedly rejecting the peace overtures of the central powers. It is stated that Russia is desirous of effecting a lasting peace, but declares that "Russia cannot speak of peace with an opponent who has proclaimed herself the victor." The statement adds:

"The rejection of Germany's proposal in no sense places Russia in the post of a nation not desirous of a durable peace or insensible to the urgent necessity of rescuing Europe from the calamity which has cast its shadow over the entire world. But Russia will continue to suffer its calamity and add indefinitely to the sacrifices which she has already made rather than submit to the greater catastrophe threatened by German Imperial ambitions."

What the French Did.

These results were achieved by the French in their sudden blow struck against the crown prince's front before Verdun, east of the Meuse, yesterday. More than 9,000 prisoners were taken, including 250 officers.

Eighty-one guns were captured or destroyed. The villages of Vacherotte and Louvemont, Chambrette Farm, and the Pardamont and Rezonvaux works were reconquered. The positions thus recaptured are close to those held by the French on the right bank of the Meuse before the crown prince's great Verdun offensive began last February.

The French attack was delivered by about 40,000 men and the front attacked was held by about the same number.

\$12,000,000 HOTEL PLANNED IN GOTHAM

E. M. Statler Will Erect Hostelery Containing 2,200 Rooms.

(By The International News Service.) New York, Dec. 16.—The operation of the Pennsylvania Hotel, at first planned as the largest hotel in this city changed hands today. Under the plan of the new owners, it will be the largest hotel in the world. This change followed the passing of the operating lease from F. J. Machette to E. M. Statler, president of the Hotel Statler Company. Mr. Machette had obtained the lease from the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Mr. Statler will construct a hotel with 2,200 rooms at an approximate cost of about \$12,000,000. The first plans called for a 1,300-room structure. Excavations for the mammoth hotel is already in progress. It will occupy a tract in Seventh avenue, facing the Pennsylvania Station, having a frontage of 400 feet in Thirty-third street and 200 feet in Thirty-second street. The Pennsylvania will be sixteen stories in height.

The Statler Hotel Company is now operating large hotels in Buffalo, Cleveland and Detroit. It is constructing another "at Buffalo Bill."

"BUFFALO BILL" SERIOUSLY ILL.

Denver, Col., Dec. 16.—Col. Cody (Buffalo Bill) is seriously ill at the home of his sister here. According to his physician, Dr. J. H. East, Col. Cody spent a bad night last night and it is understood that members of his family have been summoned from his ranch at Cody, Wyo. He is suffering from a general breakdown, according to the physician, who says the illness is grave because of the age of the former plainsman, who is 70 years old.

CONFIRMS R. B. FARLEY REPORT

Chicago, Dec. 16.—Hale Holden, president of the Board of Directors of the Chicago and North Western Railway, today confirmed statements made by President Leach of the Trainmen's Brotherhood, at the Evansville, Ind., transportation conference, that conferences between the railroad workers and executives are being held with a view to settling their differences out of court.

Augusta, Ga., Dec. 16.—Summersville, Savannah, Florida, Ocala, Atlantic Coast Line, 1406 N. Y. ave. n.w. Adv.

Rep. Borland Proposes Daylight Saving Bill

Congress will be asked to pass on the "daylight saving" scheme at the present session. Representative Borland, of Missouri, began work on such a measure today.

It is designed to put into operation a Federal law for the daylight saving scheme which practically all of the nations of Europe adopted at the beginning of the war.

The plan contemplates putting all clocks ahead one hour during the summer months. The Federal government could put the plan in effect in the District of Columbia, all agencies of interstate commerce, and in the mails.

ENVOY PAYS CALL

Von Bernstorff Discusses Peace with Secretary Lansing.

Count Von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, visited the State Department yesterday and informed Secretary Lansing the central powers are ready to give the entente group a statement of the preliminary terms upon which they propose to discuss peace.

The German diplomat added that as soon as a conference had been organized his government would present full terms as a proposal for definite peace. It is understood the formal proposal contemplates an agreement for partial disarmament. At the conclusion of the conference Ambassador Von Bernstorff said:

"I have not received any formal terms and the American government knows officially that no formal terms have been proposed. All Germany has suggested is that the belligerents get together and talk."

"If that proposal is accepted definite terms naturally will be discussed, but until then it will not be proper to indulge in speculation. My visit to the Secretary of State was purely for general discussion."

The German Ambassador was in a most optimistic frame of mind over the widespread sentiment for peace expressed in this country. He appeared entirely satisfied with the course adopted by this country.

The peace notes were forwarded to London, Paris and Petrograd before noon yesterday. The text of each communication was in English, but for purposes of comparison the original text in French will be forwarded as soon as the cables are clear of the English text.

Hope was expressed at the State Department that a reply would be received from the allies within ten days. In anticipation of this President Wilson and Secretary Lansing will spend Christmas in Washington. Ambassador Von Bernstorff also has cancelled arrangements for a Christmas vacation he had expected to spend in Florida.

GARRISON DENOUNCES "UNIVERSAL ALLIANCE"

Former Secretary of War Warns U. S. of Dangers Ahead.

(By The International News Service.) New York, Dec. 16.—Lindley M. Garrison, former Secretary of War in the Wilson Cabinet, sounded a warning today against the United States entering into a universal alliance of nations, as has been proposed by the principal speaker on the "Nationalism" program at the Lawyers' Club, 115 Broadway. It was the first speech Mr. Garrison has made since his resignation from the cabinet, in which he discussed state affairs and politics.

Mr. Garrison said: "If the United States is engaged, as suggested, in a universal alliance, she is perforce a party to every quarrel the world over. It is not inevitable that instead of pursuing a natural development along lines expressive of her innate genius and energy she will surely be diverted therefrom and plunged into alien matters utterly foreign to her real concern and her best and vital interests."

Mr. Garrison warned against lack of preparation for war, under guise of adherence to war, saying: "It is little short of treason to deny the importance of preparedness. He who adds that the national government has flinched, faltered and neglected its duties in this one respect and has tried to pass its neglected duties up to the States."

TRANSPORT SUMMER ABANDONED

New York, Dec. 16.—The government transport summer was abandoned shortly before noon today. Capt. Webber and the remaining members of the crew succeeded in getting a boat away from the slowly settling vessel after a hard battle with the high seas which already have begun to wash her decks. They were taken aboard the coast guard cutter Seneca and brought to New York.

MRS. DAVID LEE SUES.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 16.—Mrs. Virginia Lee, daughter of the late Charles B. Rouse, a millionaire philanthropist of New York, has entered suit in the Circuit Court here for an absolute divorce from her husband, David Lee, of Belair, Md. The suit was filed on October 18, but became known at the first time today. In her bill she charges her husband abandoned her.

TO SELL BIG STEEL PLANTS.

Lebanon, Pa., Dec. 16.—The board of directors of the American Iron and Steel Company announced today that they had voted unanimously to sell the company's two plants here and at Reading to Bethlehem Steel Corporation for \$5,500,000. Ninety-nine per cent of the stockholders have agreed to accept \$55.80 for each share of stock.

WOOD ALCOHOL KILLS CONVICTS.

Joliet, Ill., Dec. 16.—Three convicts are dead, three are believed to have no chance of recovery and three others are in serious condition today as a result of drinking wood alcohol, which they had stolen from the prison plant shop.

CARABAO RECALL "DAYS OF EMPIRE"

Veteran Service Officers of Philippine Campaign Dine at the Willard.

Meat call corralled nearly 300 members and guests of the Washington Corral Military Order of the Carabao at the New Willard last night for the annual dinner.

At this anniversary dinner memories went back sixteen years to the Army and Navy Club in Manila, where a small group of officers organized the Military Order of the Carabao. The name was adopted in recognition of the services rendered the American forces by the faithful Carabao, a water buffalo, the beast of burden in the islands.

The founders of the order had no idea that the organization would attain its present proportions. Today its roll contains nearly 3,000 names, among which may be found nearly all the army, navy and Marine Corps officers who have served in the Philippines.

Toast to President.

The festivities last night were opened by Capt. John H. Gibbons, Paramount Carabao, who proposed a toast to the President of the United States, which was followed by the "Star Spangled Banner" by the Marine Band.

A parade followed. As their names were called "notables" entered in uniform on "hobby horses" and made speeches in rhyme. Those called were: Maj. Gen. George Barnett, Admiral William S. Benson, Rear Admiral Leigh C. Palmer, Brig. Gen. Henry P. McGowan, Paymaster General Samuel McGowan, Commander Noble E. Irwin was "Bombinero" for the evening.

Following was the flight of an aeroplane over the heads of the diners. It brought messages to the "Bombinero," which he read aloud. One read: "Rumor that dry wave is headed toward Washington. To insure existence of refreshments at this dinner an forwarding supply of select 'vino' for immediate and future use."

Shower American Flags.

The second appearance of the aeroplane introduced the novelty of an attack of anti-aircraft guns, bombs exploding all about the aeroplane showering confetti and streamers.

A Filipino market day, showing a Carabao cart, with native and a realistic cock-fight were well staged and during

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\$220,000,000 WHISKY PLOT TRIALS NEAR

Attorney General Says Government Is Preparing for Early Prosecutions.

The United States government yesterday announced its readiness to make its final move to break up the whiskey conspiracy which Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Osborn estimates has defrauded the government of \$220,000,000 revenue in a decade.

Attorney General Gregory issued a statement that the government is preparing to press to trial early in January the cases against Guy Hartman, J. H. Surber, and Thomas C. McCoy. All are under indictment and McCoy has just been convicted at Jacksonville, Fla. Another indictment is pending against him at Fort Smith, Ark.

The frauds were engineered, it is alleged, through conspiracy with government revenue agents. McCoy and Surber formerly were revenue agents. Surber resigned the Asheville, N. C., jurisdiction in 1912 to become head of the "University of Whiskey Swindlers," the Department of Justice says.

Government storekeepers and gaugers already have been tried and convicted for complicity. Hartman last year jumped a \$25,000 bond, fled to Mexico and there, in disguise, did venal scout duty for the American expeditionary force. He crossed into the United States last summer and started to return. When but twenty feet from the international boundary an armed band of men took him back to Fort Smith. He has made a full confession.

C. E. HUGHES WILL HEAD N. Y. BAR ASSOCIATION

Late Presidential Candidate Slated for Place by Nominating Body.

(By The International News Service.) Albany, N. Y., Dec. 16.—Charles E. Hughes will be the next president of the New York State Bar Association. He has been named for the office by the nominating committee and this is equivalent to election. The election is the nomination was made several days ago, but the announcement is made in a circular letter mailed today to the members of the association. The formal election will take place at the annual meeting in Brooklyn January 12 and 13. Alton B. Parker is chairman of the nominating committee.

485 BRAVE U-BOAT PERIL.

New York, Dec. 16.—Braving the perils of "war zone" waters, 485 passengers sailed for England today on the American liner St. Paul. It was the biggest passenger list carried on any ship since the Lusitania was sunk. There was a big cargo of mail, as the St. Paul is the last of the "Christmas ships" to leave port. She is due to arrive on Christmas eve.

HUNGER AWAKENS CONSCIENCE.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 16.—Shivering from the cold and saying that he was hungry, Arthur Gumprecht, 19 years old, walked into detective headquarters and surrendered himself to Detective Shank, stating that he was paroled in New York for violating the parole. Gumprecht said that after he was paroled he committed larceny.

Reduced Fares for Christmas

Holidays to points South, December 20 to 25. Southern Ry. Consult Agents, 705 15th St. and 911 G St.—Adv.

Mr. Redfield Tries Out New Foods on Cabinet

Secretary of Commerce Redfield is earning the title of official taster for the people of the United States.

Under his supervision the Bureau of Fisheries has given the public several new kinds of fish. The Secretary never announces that a fish is edible until he partakes of it. He usually serves newly discovered edible foods, prepared from recipes invented by Mrs. Redfield, at dinners given members of the Cabinet before announcement of the discovery is made.

GET PAPER OFFER

Publishers Receive Proposal From Manufacturers.

An offer by manufacturers of news print paper to sell their 1917 output, now contracted for, at the average contract price according to a pro rata distribution to be agreed upon by the newspaper publishers, was the only tangible proposition submitted toward a solution of the present unprecedented news print paper shortage at the meeting of publishers, manufacturers and jobbers yesterday before the Federal Trade Commission at the New Willard Hotel.

Following brief discussion of this offer by representatives of the smaller publishers, who did not suggest an alternative proposition, the hearing was adjourned to a complete change of heart. Committees representing the three parties at interest will meet then with the Federal Trade Commission to frame a questionnaire to be sent all publishers in this country to ascertain their paper requirements for the next year, what paper supplies they have contracted for, and to what extent they are willing to relinquish a percentage of their contracts, so that smaller publishers may be taken care of.

Put Up to Big Publishers.

In making this offer the manufacturers felt they believed all publishers' requirements for the next year could be met at equitable prices if the larger publishers, who now have practically the entire supply for 1917 under contract, would agree to relinquish from 5 to 10 per cent of the amount their contracts call for. Representative of the jobbers offered to distribute the paper which might be relinquished from existing contracts to smaller publishers at an increase of 1 cent per pound over prevailing contract prices.

The committee which is to prepare the questionnaire in conjunction with the Federal Trade Commission.

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Telegraph Tips

Berlin, Dec. 16.—Beginning tonight, cafes, theaters and hotels in Berlin must close at 11:30 and stores at 9 p. m. Rail traffic in the city will be suspended at 11:30 to save fuel.

New Orleans, La., Dec. 16.—Joseph Letter, millionaire clubman, of Washington, was recovering today from an accident that nearly cost him the sight of one eye. While hunting ducks, Letter ran a reed into his eye.

Berlin, Dec. 16.—The first appeal for volunteers to the civil army was posted in Magdeburg yesterday.

Liverpool, Eng., Dec. 16.—The boiler makers strikes has been settled. The men will return to work Monday.

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 16.—A proposal for the manufacture of print paper at the State penitentiary on the same basis as is now manufactured has been discussed by the legislative committee of the Minnesota Editorial Association.

Buenos Ayres, Dec. 16.—The minister of finance has accepted a short-term loan of \$15,000,000 at 6 per cent, offered by New York bankers. Senor Naon, Argentine Ambassador at Washington, has been authorized to sign the notes.

Special to The Washington Herald. New York, Dec. 16.—A mysterious letter which was received by the Lamport and Holt Steamship Company led to the recovery of gems valued at \$10,000 which were taken from the office on the company's pier, at the foot of Montague street, Brooklyn. The jewels were found in a Chinese laundry, in Brooklyn, which was mentioned in the letter as the place where they had been left. The letter was unsigned.

How the jewels found their way to the laundry and the circumstances in which they were stolen from the pier the police have not revealed. A close watch is being kept at the home of a missing clerk, formerly employed at the pier.

The jewels included Brazilian diamonds valued at \$5,000, and pearls valued at \$5,000. They had been deposited at the office of the steamship company to await the action of the consignee.

GREEK ISLAND REPORTED SEIZED.

Berlin (via Sayville wireless), Dec. 16.—According to official reports received here, the Greek island of Syra, in the Aegean, Austro-Hungarian and Turkish residents on the Greek island of Syra were arrested by a detachment of the entente which landed there. The German navy had been ordered to seize the island as the result of abominable treatment received. He was 72 years old.

BEARS SLEEP, ESCAPE LEAD.

Bansor, Me., Dec. 16.—Only eighteen bears have been brought here this season compared with seventy-two last season. There are as many bears as ever, but on account of the failure of the beech-nut crop the animals have hibernated earlier than usual.

Ten thousand deer are believed to have been killed in this State in the shooting season just closed.

KAISER AGAIN GRANDFATHER.

Berlin, via London, Dec. 16.—Princess Joachim, of Prussia, daughter-in-law of the German Emperor, gave birth to a son today.

The child is the tenth grandchild of the Emperor and the fourth to be born since the beginning of the war.

Use the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway for your Christmas holiday trip. Three trains daily to the West: 2 p. m., 4:45 p. m., 11:30 p. m. Office, 1559 F St. and Union Station.—Adv.

VILLA REQUESTS BORDER PARLEY

Bandit Chief Asks Gen. Scott to Discuss Plan for Policing Line.

By L. V. B. RUCKER. (International News Service.)

El Paso, Dec. 16.—Villa has asked for a conference with Gen. Hugh Scott relative to policing the border and the protection of the lives and property of Americans and other foreigners, according to the message of a second envoy from the bandit, who, concealing his identity, arrived here today.

The second mysterious envoy from the bandit conferred with Gen. Bell and State Department special agents. The courier quoted Villa as saying that Gen. Scott, unhampered could have settled the Mexican situation long since and could have prevented bloodshed and revolution. Villa and Gen. Scott long have been friends. They had several conferences in El Paso and elsewhere before Villa lost the friendship of the United States through his raids on Columbus and elsewhere.

Villa sent word that he has no animosity towards any Americans except "dollar diplomats, who are trucking and kowtowing to Carranza."

According to the envoy, Villa is supreme in the state of Chihuahua, Coahuila and Durango. He is approaching supremacy in Sonora with the complete overthrow of Carranza at hand.

Villa's latest alleged proposals, through the two envoys who have appeared here with alive messages in their hands, is considered a complete change of heart from the lurid manifesto which ostensibly was issued by the bandit chieftain while he occupied Chihuahua City and which reached El Paso a week ago tonight. The message borne by the envoys are taken to mean that Villa has no intention of attacking Peshing and also seeks to disavow any complicity in the raids upon Columbus and Santa Ysabel.

Military men here have received an unofficial communication from Washington that Gen. Scott is willing to confer with Villa but officials on the border are inclined to minimize that possibility in view of the fact that such a conference would imply recognition of the bandit.

When wireless warnings of the supposed presence of the German raider were received on December 6 a panic among the steamer passengers was narrowly averted.

About the Chicago were twenty soldiers who have been fighting with the allies and who came here on furlough to spend Christmas. Among them were two American members of the French flying crew, George Rockwell and William Frey.

WARNED BY WIRELESS, SHIP EVADES U-BOATS

Passengers on French Liner Chicago Nearly Panic Stricken.

(By The International News Service.) New York, Dec. 16.—Dodging through the Atlantic, far off her course, to avoid a German raider that was supposed to be in the vicinity, the French liner Chicago arrived today from Bordeaux four days overdue. The 230 passengers on board did not breathe easily until the friendly shores of the United States were sighted.

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MISSING GEMS FOUND IN CHINESE LAUNDRY

Anonymous Note Leads to Recovery of \$10,000 of Stolen Jewels.

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U.S. WORKERS TRIUMPH IN HOUSE TEST VOTE ON HERALD MOVEMENT

Advocates of Federal Pay Increases Outnumber Opponents 263 to 77 on Special Rule Issue

Day's Developments In Fight for Higher Pay

1. House Rules Committee reports privileged resolution that throws open legislative bill to general amendments, and makes in order all amendments for salary increases, including the Nolan bill.

2. Borland amendment adding an extra hour to the time schedule of government clerks, and employees defeated in committee.

3. Mass meeting arranged for tomorrow night, at Convention Hall, for increased salaries.

4. District appropriation bill completed by appropriations committee with the exception of the rate of salary increases.

HERALD IS LAUDED

Paper's Fight for Higher Pay Commended.

In appreciation of the work done by The Washington Herald toward obtaining increased salaries for government employees, the following statements were made last night:

President H. M. McLarin, Federal Employees Union: "I have always had an abiding faith in the fairness of the House of Representatives and of course it is increased by the vote today. I am exceedingly grateful to The Washington Herald and the press generally for the interest they have taken in this movement for the government employee. I am fully confident that the action of the House and Senate will be marked by a disposition to dispense fairness and justice to all."

Representative Nolan, of California: "Of course I am pleased in the knowledge that the bill for which I have long striven will have the opportunity to be passed upon by the House membership. The necessity of helping the government employee on a small salary was first impressed on Congress through the hearings on the Nolan bill. Naturally I feel that it should be given the fullest consideration."

"I believe that The Washington Herald in getting behind the poorer paid government employee has done splendid work. Certainly I have appreciated its co-operation."

PRETTY TEACHER AVERS IRATE WIFE BEAT HER

Gets Warrant for Mrs. Brown, Whose Husband Is Trustee.

Special to The Washington Herald. Highland Falls, N. Y., Dec. 16.—At best teaching is no sinecure. But Mrs. Helen M. Rourke, the young and attractive woman who instructs the youth of Moodna, a village near here, has found out the hard way that teaching is no sinecure. There are worse things than the monotony of pedagogy. There was no monotony of which to complain on the day she refers to in the charge which she has made in obtaining a warrant for the arrest of Mrs. Spencer Brown.

She asserts that Mrs. Brown, mistakenly believing that she (the teacher) was too friendly with Mrs. Brown, who is a school trustee, called at the school room. Then, she said, after a brief but heated colloquy, Mrs. Brown seized a porcelain-dipped dipper, chased her and beat her many times with the vessel, and wound up the performance by shoving her head through a pane of glass.

The minds of the pupils being more or less diverted from their studies by the proceedings, Mrs. Rourke found them gone when a momentary pause occurred in the proceedings.

MILDER, WITH SNOW, PROSPECT FOR TODAY

Intense Cold Expected to Moderate, but Change Will Be Gradual.

The man in charge of the weather has decided to send a few clouds over the roof of the earth today, according to reports from his headquarters. Toward evening he will gradually hide the blue behind a gray, laden curtain and a quantity of snow is expected to fall over the District in the night.

The icy blasts of the past two days are not expected to repeat their unwelcome visit, but the aerial currents will veer from their present southerly course and blow due northwest. The intense cold that has chilled Washingtonians to the bone during the last few days will not continue, but a gradual moderation is probable.

Those who have been threatening to haul out the old red flannels and extra heavy clothes can bide their time yet a while. Tomorrow is expected to dawn fair, not cold, but with enough tang to make Congressmen, government employees and others get about at a fast clip to keep the blood circulating normally.

CARD HAS ADVENTUROUS TRIP.

Berlin (via Sayville wireless), Dec. 16.—The Berliner Zeitung Amnitting today published an interesting message sent on November 2 from Chicago. The card traveled 1,000 miles on aeroplanes above land to New York and then 3,000 miles under water on board the merchant submarine Deutschland from New York to Bremen.

IRON WORKS WRECKED

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 16.—Following two explosions, the Llewellyn Iron Works was practically destroyed by fire here early today and the Lacy Manufacturing Company was seriously damaged. A few hours after David Caplan, charged with conspiracy in connection with the Times dynamiting six years ago, was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter. The loss is estimated at about \$200,000.